



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
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Minutes 09-17-2008

MEETING MINUTES SEPTEMBER 17, 2008

Members Present: Kerrie Fallon, Janice Dallas, and Susan James, Maureen St. Hilaire, Lin Baker

Members Absent: Barbara Cutler, Barbara Jones, and Kevin O'Brien

Others Present: Heidi Hample, Disability Advocate
Jack Jones, ADA Coordinator

Town Day September 20, 2008:

Janice Dallas said that Cindy Steinberg from the Arlington American Chronic Pain Association would be accepting the Commission offer to share the Disability Commission Table at Town Day. Jack Jones said that writing pens with the Commission's telephone number and address would be given out at Town day as a promotional item. Jack Jones said that the Access Newsletter was nearly finished and would be completed by Town Day. Kerrie said that she would bring balloons to tie onto the Commission's table at Town Day.

Mass Ave Corridor Project:

Jack Jones said that the first Meeting open to the public to discuss the Mass Ave Corridor Project would be held on Wednesday October 1, 2008 at the Arlington Senior Center, 27 Maple Street. Jack said that an interactive public workshop would be held on Thursday October 23, 2008 at the Town Hall Auditorium. Jack said that improvements on Mass Ave would be made to strive for a healthy balance between automobiles, bikes and pedestrians. Jack said that representation from the Commission has been strongly encouraged at these meetings. Jack said that Barbara Cutler requested the Commission send a letter addressing the Commission's concerns regarding this project to the Mass Ave Corridor Committee. Jack Jones said that some of the work that will be considered for the Mass Ave Corridor Project would include a bike lane, pedestrian improvements, new sidewalks, and a narrower street.

Curb Cut Project:

Jack said that Michael Rademacher, Town Engineer, has informed himself that the Town will need a new contract for this project. The Town had intended to add the curb cut work onto a contract that existed to construct sidewalk and curb cuts but because Federal CDBG funds are being used the language in the contract needed to include Federal minimum wage rates. Michael Rademacher has said that he is unsure if the curb cut ramp work will be started this fall.

Other Business:

Janice Dallas talked about the concern regarding poles and trees being located in the middle of some accessible parking spaces. Janice said that this prevents a disabled person with a van from exiting on the right side. Janice suggested that the Commission develop a project list. Kerrie suggested hiring Bruce Bruneau as a consultant to work with the Commission. Jack said that Bruce indicated a strong desire to offer his services to the Commission for a small consulting fee of \$12.00 per hour.

Job Fair:

Jack said that the main agenda item for the Diversity Task Force when they meet on the first Monday of the month would be to discuss the Job Fair. Maureen St. Hilaire said that the Commission could contact employers about participating in the Job Fair. Maureen suggested Stop & Shop, Wilson farms, Kelleher Work Activity Center and the Lahey Clinic all of whom offer employment to the disabled. Maureen said that she would be willing to make telephone calls to employers. Heidi said that she would be willing to be a greeter at the Fair. Kerrie Fallon said that she would write articles that would be sent to the local newspapers in order to outreach to consumers.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 5:40 P.M.